

Northland Regional Council Extraordinary meeting – 1st October 2013

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[LINK to Tabled Item](#) - Item 7.2: Northland Inc

It was 1300hrs and Chairman Craig Brown welcomed all to the meeting.

1.0. APOLOGIES

Item No.1.0 and there was an apology for Cr John Bain, this being duly moved by Cr Tony Davies-Colley, seconded by Cr Bronwyn Hunt.

Craig continued and explained the 'house rules', explaining the emergency exits and position of rest room facilities.

Craig Brown advised there was an additional item, Item 7.2: Northland Inc. to be tabled.

This was duly moved by Cr Bill Rossiter, seconded by Cr Bronwyn Hunt and no discussion was required.

2.0. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Craig Brown reminds them that any '**Declarations of Conflicts of Interest**' were to be advised item by item as they progressed through the agenda and they would be dealt with accordingly and then decided what, if any action is to be taken case by case.

Item No. 3.0. PRESENTATIONS

Time at 1302hrs and there was a special presentation.

Craig Brown invited Regional Policy Senior Programme Manager, Kathryn Ross to speak. Kathryn Ross explained how she had received on behalf of the Northland Regional Council an Award of Excellence for excellence in the field of management in the RPS. Kathryn read the citation received with this award and how NRC managed to shine above 1000's of others. She explained how the award was received on Saturday evening on behalf of the NRC and the community.

Kathryn Ross presented the award to Cr Ian Walker, chair of the Regional Policy Committee. Cr Ian Walker advised they had Kathryn and the team to thank as they had put them through the wringer with this policy; they had tried to do something different and a change in the way we process things. They had Section 32 as a basis to build on and received the award on behalf of Northland.

Craig Brown wanted to endorse the words portrayed by both Cr Ian Walker and Kathryn Ross. They had provided a policy of cutting edge with a new look.

Time at 1310hrs. Item No. 3.1 Oyster Farm Bond Update (Pages 1-12)

Tom Hollings, Executive Officer of NZ Oyster Industry Association introduced some of those present today for the presentation. They were Mr Callum McCallum (ex past president NZ Oyster Industry Association) an oyster farmer in the Waikare Inlet, Mr Don Collier, Aotearoa Fisheries General Manager Oyster Trading Division and Justine Innes Ocean Law New Zealand, from Nelson. Justine, a lawyer, had prepared the presentation documents. The main aim of the presentation was to ensure any costs of clean ups in the industry does not fall on ratepayers.

Cr Bronwyn Hunt asked what sort of buy-in they had from the farmers.

Tom Hollings told how they were dead keen to subscribe to this and had put up the capital value of their farms.

Cr Ian Walker asked about those that don't.

Tom Hollings explained it was a voluntary scheme and those that don't then they will fall back on council to take action on any issues.

Cr Bill Rossiter had questions on Section 5.3.7 (Page 8) and Section 5.4.6 (Page 9).

Cr Graeme Ramsey had a query on risks.

Justine Innes answered these queries.

Craig Brown asked councillors if there were any points for clarification and if the presenters had anything further with the presentation.

Tom Hollings explained this was about how we can all go forward.

Craig Brown advised there would not be a decision today and they want to see the industry go ahead. He advised they will receive the report as per the recommendation and then see what Colin Dall, Consents/Monitoring Senior Programme Manager had to change on the report before council adopted it.

Moved by Craig Brown, seconded by Cr Bill Rossiter

Craig continued that there was a willingness for us to move on and the industry to be successful.

Cr Tony Davies-Colley had a query on the ownership of the lease if a farm had to be cleaned up.

Cr Ian Walker asked what they would be getting in one weeks time. He would like to see it wrapped up.

Craig Brown confirmed that the report should be done in negotiation between Colin Dall, the CEO and the NZ Oyster Industry Association so that it could all be done at the next meeting.

Cr Joe Carr asked, what was the term of the agreement?

Tom Hollings explained it was between 2 and 3 years.

Cr Graeme Ramsey advised there were a number of issues that needed addressing; risk, abatement notices and what Item 6 (Page 10) will consist of.

Craig Brown confirmed that 'bullet points' of issues that needed addressing should be forwarded to Colin Dall enabling him to address and implement those things into any changes that were needed.

OPERATIONAL REPORTS

4.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL (Pages 13-56)

Item No. 4.1 Cross Disciplinary Projects (Page 13)

Item No. 4.2 Resource Management (Page 14)

Item No. 4.3 Support Services (Pages 15 -56)

These reports were moved by Cr Bill Rossiter, seconded by Cr Ian Walker with the time now at 1345hrs.

There was some discussion in relation to the reports above.

CEO Malcolm Nicholson gave brief details on some of the mentioned issues.

Cr Tony Davies-Colley claimed he would have to comment on the Marine Park item as it had cost \$20,000-00 to this stage. Tony also commented on Health and Safety in regards to Human resources on page 15 and had some concerns in regards this.

CEO Malcolm Nicholson in response claimed that it was about getting everyone up to the same level of understanding of issues.

Cr Joe Carr also had a question on Health and Safety giving an example in the environmental sense.

Craig Brown advised that 'if you are aware, you will be liable in some way'.

Cr Ian Walker claimed H & S is a minefield. *How right you possibly are.*

Cr Graeme Ramsey had a question on the Marine Park report.

CEO Malcolm Nicholson responded that the District Council would like them to proceed with it.

Cr Graeme Ramsey claims he was reluctant to support this proposal at this stage.

Cr Tony Davies-Colley advises that the Marine Plan is only about economic and tourism; there is nothing about improving the environment for Northland. *Good one Tony, that is most important.*

Cr Bronwyn Hunt claims it is lacking statements about Iwi and district Hapu are missing from this document.

A variety of questions and comments were fielded from Cr Joe Carr, Cr Bronwyn Hunt, Cr Tony Davies-Colley and Cr Graeme Ramsey, some stirring a bit of debate.

Cr Tony Davies-Colley moved an addition to the recommendation that further work needed to be done on the Marine Park Report.

GOVERNANCE MATTERS

5.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Time now at 1405hrs. Item No. 5.1 Minutes of the Council Meeting – 17 September 2013 (Pages 57-68)

Moved by Cr Bronwyn Hunt, seconded by Craig Brown.

A change was needed Item 10, Page 68, to read: Moved Bill Rossiter / Craig Brown (not Bain)

No discussion was entered into on this item.

6.0 FINANCIAL REPORTS

Time now at 1406hrs. Item No. 6.1. Far North District Council – Collection of Regional Council Rates and Rates Arrears – Quarterly Update to 30 June 2013 (Pages 69-76)

Moved by Cr Graeme Ramsey, seconded by Cr Bronwyn Hunt.

No discussion was entered into on this item.

Time still at 1407hrs. Item No.6.2. Schedule of Credit Notes for Approval (Pages 77-78)

Moved by Cr Graeme Ramsey, seconded by Cr Bill Rossiter.

There was no further discussion was had on this item.

7.0 DECISION MAKING MATTERS

Time still at 1407hrs. Item No.7.1. Northland Inc. 2013/14 Quarter Two Funding (Pages 79-80)

Moved Cr Bill Rossiter, seconded by Cr Bronwyn Hunt.

No discussion was entered into on this item.

Time now at 1408hrs. Item No. 7.2 Northland Inc. – Going Concern at 30 June 2013 (amended Tabled Item) (Pages 81-82)

Moved Cr Bronwyn Hunt, seconded by Cr Tony Davies-Colley.

Cr Joe Carr had a question to CEO Malcolm Nicholson; 'are you comfortable with this and can they repay it?'

CEO Malcolm Nicholson replied and hoped council will deal with it when they present their budgets.

With an amendment to read; 'that Northland Inc to return to positive equity within 2 years'.

The meeting duly finished at 1413hrs, Chairman Craig Brown thanking those of us who attended and then the Councilors went into business with the public excluded.

This exclusion was moved by Cr Ian Walker, seconded by Cr Bill Rossiter.

8.0 BUSINESS WITH THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED (Pages 83-84)

8.1 Confirmation of Confidential Minutes of the Council Meeting – 17 September 2013
(Pages 85-88)

8.2 Offer to Purchase Council Property (Pages 89-104)

All information in regards to this meeting's agenda and others are available on the Northland Regional Council website by clicking on this [link](#).